MR. K. KUNJUKISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, in view of the fact that there were not sufficient floods last year, the Government member is of opinion that the bridge has satisfied the test?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Under the terms of the contract, the bridge had to withstand two floods or the bill had to be paid within 12 months. It has withstood one flood and unfortunately there was no other flood.

PRESIDENT: You could not raise another flood?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No, Sir.

PRESIDENT: It is a contractual obligation?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): That is all, Sir.

Regarding the leper colony, I ask for Rs. 70,000. This is for the accommodation of the patients in the Noornad Leper Asylum.

There are three estimates which have been sanctioned for that. Two estimates are being worked out now and no funds have been provided for the third estimate. But before the patients are moved into the quarters, it is necessary that some works should be done under the third estimate. Because, once the patients are moved in, the workman cannot do work there. That is the reason why I am asking for this sum of Rs. 70,000. The patients have to be moved in because they are now occupying temporary sheds. It is, therefore, very necessary that this sum should be granted.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): Will the whole work be completed if this sum is sanctioned?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): The work will not be finally completed. It will be finally completed only when Government grant more funds. But this supplementary grant is for carrying out the works before the patients are moved in.

The motion was put and carried, and the grant was made.

EDUCATION.

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 20,000 for the award of grants to new schools and new classes opened since 1106.

From the discussions which took place on the floor of this House, during the last budget session and during the last November session, honourable members will be quite familiar with the recent history of this rather complicated question. It is, therefore, not necessary for me to cover the ground once again. The central fact is that, since 1106, it has not been found possible to give grants to new Vernacular Schools in the State. Owing to financial stringency, year after year, since 1106, we have had to tell the managements of schools newly opened that grants could not be sanctioned. In many cases, schools have been running according to rules and satisfactorily and have been recognised. Yet grants have not been given to them. In the case of Primary

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Schools this hardship is very severe because Primary Schools can charge no fees. The teachers in these schools have to depend almost entirely upon the grant. From the questions and answers this morning, members will realise that there are 509 schools which have not been given any grant at present. Some are complete schools; some are getting grants for one or two classes and some get no grant for any class. It was with a determination to tackle this very serious and difficult problem that I proposed, with the approval of the Advisory Board, that grant-in-aid should be reduced by chs. 14 with a view to find the necessary funds for all the schools. Government sanctioned my proposal, and this House itself at the last session endorsed this policy after a very elaborate discussion initiated by the honourable and redoubtable member, Mr. Damodaran Asan. This cut of 14 chac krams in the grant-in-aid brought in a saving of Rs. 50,000. The cut was made with much reluctance. But it was necessary to take immedate steps to deal with the situation. On a careful estimate of the expenditure involved, it was found that Rs. 1 lakh would be required for giving grants-in-aid to all these schools for 1111. Out of this one lakh, Rs. 50,000 has been obtained by the cut. It is proposed to find Rs. 30,000 by diversion from other items in the Departmental Budget. And I have now come to the House for a supplementary grant for the remaining sum of Rs. 20,000. I feel sure this House will evince sympathy with the lot of the poor Primary School teachers and sanction this amount.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): What is the period for which this amount is to be paid?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): For one year from Karkatakam 1110 to Mithunam 1111.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): Sir, I rise to oppose the demand. From the speech made by the honourable member, I was not able to understand the reason why it was not included in the annual budget presented to us in the last Budget Session. From the list placed before us, we understand that the amount is required for the payment of grants for schools and classes opened since 1106. My submission is that, for the schools newly opened after 1106, the grants could have been included in the budget for 1107. Now, we are in the year 1111. From the answers given this morning, we understand that there are 509 Primary Schools which do not receive any grant. Sir, the complaints from these schools are innumerable. I believe several honourable members of this House would be receiving similar complaints. Sir, the policy of the department in not paying grants to the Primary School teachers is not consistent with the policy laid down in the Education Reforms Committee's Report. In that Report the Committee says that the policy hereafter should be to leave education in the hands of private agencies. If that policy is to be adhered to, how is it possible for private agencies to conduct schools unless they are given grants? The department itself is satisfied that they are working satisfactorily. In spite of that they are not being given grants.

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PRESIDENT: I have to invite the attention of the honourable member to the fact that the question is that whether this supplementary grant should be granted now. A question of policy cannot be discussed at this stage. I understand that the main objection of the honourable member is that it should have been included in the budget.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): That is one objection. Again I wish to bring to the notice of the House the case of certain schools in my taluk which have not been given grants.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): I rise to a point of order. The question is only whether this grant should be allowed or not. The question of grants to the schools in his constituency is not before the House.

PRESIDENT: Yes.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): The demand as moved by the honourable member is not acceptable to the House. He himself has suggested that the amount is not sufficient.

PRESIDENT: The Director says that it will suffice.

MR. K. PADMANABHAN (*Chirayinkil I*): I would urge upon the attention of the honourable member that he should pay special attention to those schools which have been started at the instance of the department, in the matter of awarding grants.

PRESIDENT: Will the Director say why it was not included in the budget?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): This cut of 14 chackrams was sanctioned only after the budget was passed by this House. So the whole question arose only after that.

The demand was put and carried and the grant made.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION—PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER.

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, I move for a grant not exceeding Rs. 2,596 for the appointment of temporary additional staff in the office of the Public Service Commissioner, and for contingencies.

As the House is aware, the Public Service Commissioner was appointed towards the end of the last year. He was given a small staff to begin with. His present staff consists of a Manager, three clerks, one stenographer, one typist, one daffadar, one mochee and 12 peons.

The Public Service Commissioner has so far been engaged in preliminary work. He has completed the recruitment rules, part of which has already been published and the rest will be publised shortly. His real work begins only hereafter. He has to prepare a number of registers; he has to prepare a list of acting hands, showing therein those who have acted for more than three years and the period of acting service of each of the rest which has to be taken into consideration at the time of selection of candidates for recruitment. He has to conduct examinations for recruitment to the Intermediate as well as to the Higher Division.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Public Service Commissioner has made any appointments either in the Intermediate Division or the Higher Division?

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